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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A plurality of positive electrode plates and negative electrode plates are stacked alternately upon one another with intervening separators therebetween, wherein lateral edges of the positive electrode plates protrude beyond the negative electrode plates on one side, and lateral edges of the negative electrode plates protrude beyond the group of positive electrode plates on the opposite side. Collector plates are brought in tight contact with respective lateral edges of the positive and negative electrode plates, and heat is applied to the collector plate on an opposite surface of the electrode plates from a non-contact type heat source at several locations in lines along a direction in which the electrode plates are stacked.